

Springer-Bize-Farley House (Abraham Lafkowitz House)
934 Fifth Avenue
Columbus
Muscogee County
Georgia

HABS No. GA-2293

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Southeast Region
Department of the Interior
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SPRINGER-BIZE-FARLEY HOUSE
(Abraham Lafkowitz House)

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Location: 934 Fifth Avenue
Columbus, Muscogee County, Georgia

Significance: Architecture: This house is significant as one of very few late Victorian (Eastlake) cottages in the downtown black area. It and its neighbor are exact copies of one another with the plans reversed. History: This house is significant as it was one of two identical houses built by Emelie Springer, widow of influential Francis J. Springer, who created the city's opera house.

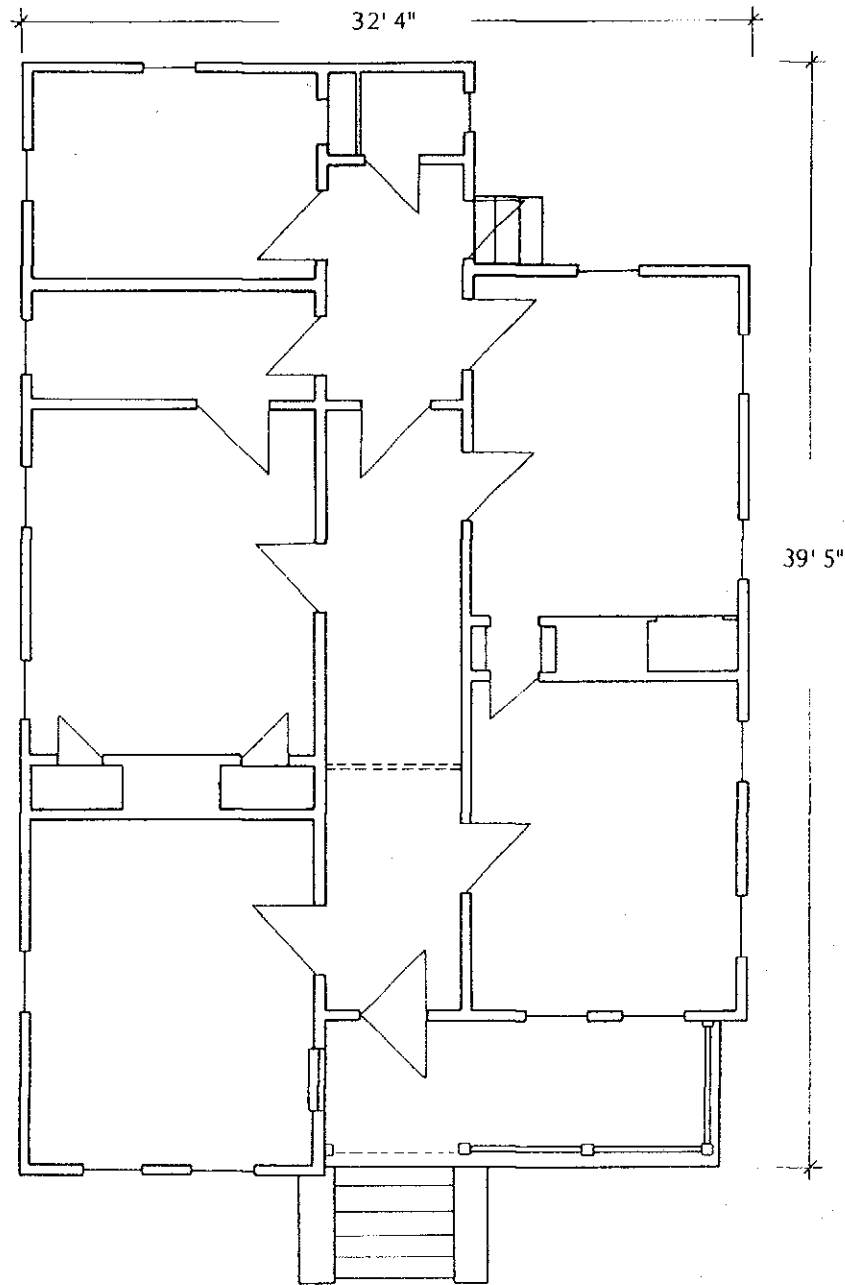
Description: Late Victorian (Eastlake); one story, ell plan, truncated hipped roof with gable over ell, two interior chimneys with heavily corbelled caps; front porch runs from projecting ell to the end of the house; weatherboard frame construction, brick foundation, asphalt shingle roof; front facade consists of five bays, two on ell, and three on main facade; gable end roof has boxed corner returns and diamond vent, porch has turned supports and balusters, spool gingerbread; interior is variation of central hall plan with four rooms; situated in residential area of late Victorian cottages with some commercial intrusions; landscaping consists of grass and occasional shrubbery and large trees; good condition.

History: This house was built as rental property between 1898 and 1900. The lot had been in the Springer family since 1878. The houses were constructed when Emelie Springer, widow of Francis J. Springer, owned the property. It passed to her daughter, Anna J. Bize in 1903, still as rental property. One of the renters in the early twentieth century was Abraham Lafkowitz, who lived there only for a short time. In 1930 Anna Bize sold the house to E.E. Farley, a well-to-do and influential African-American in Columbus. Farley lived in the house for a number of years. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Abraham Lafkowitz House in 1980.

Sources: Georgia Architectural and Historic Properties Survey-Inventory Form No. 433
Columbus City Directories 1888-1908; Muscogee County deed records; Sanborn Insurance maps.

Historian: John S. Lupold, Southeastern Archeological Services, Inc., April 15, 1994.

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